

Text: Luke 1.37

Anthony Watters confirmation.

April 28, 2019.

Nothing is impossible with God.

It's too hard. It's too hard. We easily fall into the, "It's too hard," syndrome. It's too hard to go to work every day. Tell that to the farmer milking cows. I can't do algebra. It's too hard. Try telling that to the teacher who gets a gleam in his eye every time he sees an exponent. It's too hard.

Anthony, I know it's going to be hard to keep the promises you will make in a few minutes. Suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from a single teaching you have learned? That's hard! Be diligent in using God's Word and Sacraments, for the rest of my life? That's hard! But it's hard to get up on Sunday morning when you're in college, everyone else is sleeping in, sleepin' it off. Do you know how much memory work I had to do, and how hard that was? I'm supposed to remember all that? And keep reading my Bible every day? Do you know how hard that is? Can't I just take a break now that I'm confirmed? Can't I just take it easy? This was so hard! Sinful people easily fall into the, "It's too hard," trap.

Yes, it's hard. But it's not too hard for God. Jesus didn't say, "It's too hard, I can't come to this earth." He came because he loved you. Because he wanted you in heaven. Forever. Jesus didn't say, "I can't go to the cross. Do you know how painful that is? It's too hard!" No. Jesus went to the cross, not to guilt you with a good example, but to forgive you as your perfect Substitute. Forgive you sins? Not too hard for God. Raise you from the dead? Not too hard for God. Give you eternal life? Not too hard for God. Give you the strength to keep your confirmation promises, even when it's hard? Not too hard for God.

Nothing is too hard for God. Nothing is impossible with God.

It's not too hard for God. Do you know who spoke these words? God's messenger Gabriel. Do you know to whom God's angel Gabriel spoke these words, this verse you have chosen? To Mary, the virgin mother of Jesus. Gabriel had just told her, "You will have a child, even though you are a virgin. You will be the mother of God, even though you are a sinner." Mary had to be thinking, "That's impossible! It's too hard." God's answer? It's not too hard for God. Not too hard for God to have a virgin give birth. Not too hard for God to take away your sins. Not too hard for God to take you to heaven. It's never too hard for God. It's never too hard for God. Amen.